

Message Text

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13

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 EB-04 AGR-05 AID-05 PM-03 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8734

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ETRO, AR

SUBJ: GOA SIGNS NEW ACCORDS WITH LIBYA

1. GOA ECONOMIC MISSION, HEADED BY SECRETARY OF SOCIAL SECURITY CELESTINO RODRIGO, RECENTLY RETURNED FROM LIBYA REPORTEDLY HAVING SIGNED IMPORTANT NEW ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS WITH THAT COUNTRY. CONTENTS OF NEW ACCORDS NOT YET KNOWN, BUT PRESS ACCOUNTS (WHICH OFTEN EXAGGERATED) INCLUDE FOLLOWING POINTS: 1) LIBYA WILL PAY ARGENTINA IN ADVANCE \$200 MILLION FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS TO BE DELIVERED IN 1976; 2) ARGENTINA AND LIBYA WILL ESTABLISH INVESTMENT INSTITUTE WITH JOINT CAPITAL PARTICIPATION TO FINANCE PROJECTS IN ARGENTINA'S THREE-YEAR PLAN; 3) ARGENTINE AND LIBYAN OFFICIALS WILL CONTINUE TO WORK ON STATUTES FOR NEW INVESTMENT BANK; 4) ARGENTINA WILL PROVIDE ECONOMIC AND OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR SEVERAL AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS IN LIBYA INCLUDING DAIRY PRODUCTION, FLOUR MILLS, MEAT PLANTS, ETC.

2. MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE LOPEZ REGA RECEIVED MOST OF PUBLICITY FOLLOWING RETURN OF MISSION TO ARGENTINA. COMMENTING ON MISSION, LOPEZ REGA STRESSED BENEFITS OF NEW AGREEMENTS TO ARGENTINA AND LEFT OPEN POSSIBILITY THAT ADDITIONAL ACCORDS MIGHT BE NEGOTIATED WITH OTHER ARAB
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COUNTRIES. HE ALSO ALLUDED TO POSSIBILITY OF PRESIDENTIAL

VISIT TO LIBYA BY MRS. PERON AT SOME FUTURE DATE.

3. COMMENT: ARGENTINA CLEARLY HAS STRONG ECONOMIC AND
POLITICAL MOTIVES FOR PROMOTING CLOSER LINKS WITH LIBYA
AND OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES. ARAB INTERESTS HERE NOT SO
CLEAR ALTHOUGH SOME COMMENTATORS BELIEVE ARAB FRIENDSHIP
AND MONEY MAY BE MORE READILY FORTHCOMING NOW THAT FORMER
ECONOMICS MINISTER GELBARD (OF JEWISH DESCENT) HAS LEFT
SCENE. EMBASSY SEEKING TO CONFIRM SUBSTANCE RECENT AGREE-
MENTS. WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS OF EMBASSY RE ATTITUDES
AND INTERESTS OF LIBYA HERE IN ARGENTINA.
HILL

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Message Attributes

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